



Montana Department of LABOR & INDUSTRY

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For Immediate Release:

Many Montana Employers will see a Decrease in Their 2014 Unemployment Insurance Rate

(Helena, MT) The Department of Labor and Industry announced today that the Unemployment Insurance Contribution Rate Schedule will be adjusted from schedule 6 to schedule 5, resulting in a decrease in many Montana employer's contribution rates for 2014. "Our statutory unemployment Rate Schedule is doing exactly what it is designed to do, provide for benefits during economic downturns, while rebuilding the fund as the economy grows", said Labor Commissioner Pam Bucy. "This decrease is further evidence that Montana's economy is recovering."

During the recession Montana Employers saw an increase in their contribution rate schedules. Each year a statutory formula is used to determine employer contribution rates for the next calendar year. Legislation, initially passed in 1979, requires the automatic rate adjustment. There are 11 schedules as provided by law and the rates are decreasing from schedule 6 to schedule 5.

Throughout the recession, Montana has been one of only 18 states in the U.S. to maintain a positive UI Trust Fund balance. This means through careful management, and the timely contributions from Montana businesses, Montana did not have to borrow from the federal government in order to continue paying state UI benefits. Many states are now in the position of requiring additional taxes from employers in order to pay back loans to the federal government and achieve solvency for their trust fund accounts.

Some employers will not experience a rate decrease as individual rates are based on an employer's overall unemployment rate history.

Individual employer rate information will be mailed in mid-December. For general information on UI rates, please visit: <http://uid.dli.mt.gov>.

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